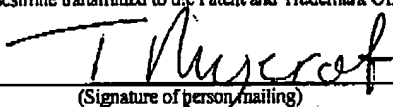


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Desmond John Best, et al. :

APPLICATION NO.: 09/918,152

: Examiner: Mark L. Berch

FILING DATE: July 30, 2001

: Group Art Unit: 1624

TITLE: NOVEL PROCESS :

Mail Stop AF

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO ADVISORY ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

In response to the April 23, 2003 Advisory Action, please amend the present application as follows.

A Notice of Appeal was filed on April 10, 2003 and an Appeal Brief is due prior to June 10, 2003. The present application will be pending prior to the due date of filing an Appeal Brief. Therefore, the present Amendment is being timely filed.

It is believed that no fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of the present Amendment. However, if any fees are required, the Examiner is authorized to charge any such fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

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